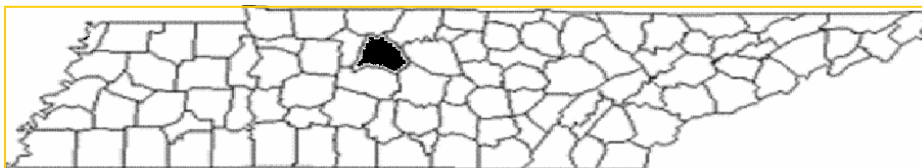


# The Status of Women in Davidson County



## STATUS OF WOMEN IN DAVIDSON COUNTY: AN OVERVIEW

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INDICATOR	DATA	COUNTY RANKING
		(of 95 Counties)
COMPOSITE EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS INDEX	11.00	1
Women's Annual Earnings	\$27,770	2
Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's Earnings (Wage Gap)	82.1%	1
Women's Labor Force Participation Rate	49.8%	3
Female Unemployment Rate	5.1%	28
Women in Managerial or Professional Occupations	29.7%	21
COMPOSITE ECONOMIC AUTONOMY INDEX	46.50	40
Businesses that are Women-Owned (% of total)	25.2%	28
Women with a Four-Year College Degree (%)	23.6%	4
Women With a High School Diploma (%)	81.1%	6
Female High School Dropout Rate	14.7%	89
Women with any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage (%)	90.7%	61
Women Earning Incomes Below the Poverty Level (%)	13.6%	21
Single Female-Headed Households Living In Poverty (%)	12.8%	21
Adolescent Pregnancy Rate (Ages 10-19)	42.5	82

**Report Overview:** This publication on the Status of Women in Davidson County is part of a statewide publication of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women, *The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties, 2004*. The Economic Council on Women is a State agency created under TCA § 4-50-100, et seq. by the One Hundredth General Assembly in 1998 to address the economic needs of Tennessee women.

## The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

### DAVIDSON

Women have taken remarkable strides towards economic equality, from education to earnings to political participation. Women are now pursuing goals such as business ownership, leadership roles in their careers, and election to state and federal political office. However, obstacles still exist in the climb toward equality. Nationwide, equal numbers of men and women are obtaining four-year college degrees; however, these gains have not translated into pay equity. The average college-educated woman working full time earns \$44,200 a year compared to \$61,800 for men in the same category. Women are still under-represented in many of the highest paying, fastest growing sectors of the economy. Helping women break into these traditionally male-dominated areas like computer science, engineering, mathematics and technology, as well as all skilled-labor positions, gives women tools for self-sufficiency and understanding of their personal capabilities, and these advances are good for the economy of our counties and of our state.

#### Employment and Earnings

The employment and earnings index includes data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of women in managerial or professional occupations.

- ◇ With women earning 82.1% of men's earnings for full-time, year-round work, Davidson County ranks first among counties in earnings equality.
- ◇ In Davidson County women have median annual earnings of \$27,770 while men in the county have median earnings of \$33,844.
- ◇ Women in Davidson County have an unemployment rate (5.1%) that is higher than the unemployment rate of the county overall (3.5%).
- ◇ Though 37.2% of employed Davidson County residents work in management or professional occupations, only 29.7% of working women in the county are employed in such positions.

#### Economic Autonomy

The economic autonomy index includes information on educational attainment, business ownership and general quality of life issues.

- ◇ Davidson ranks among the top ten counties in the percentage of women with a high school diploma (81.1%). Women in Davidson county have a higher percentage of high school degrees than do Tennessee women overall, and about the same percentages of men and women in the county have a high school diploma.
- ◇ 23.6% of women have a four-year college degree while 30.5% of all county residents have at least a bachelor's degree. Higher percentages of men than women have at least a bachelor's degree.
- ◇ Davidson County's adolescent pregnancy rate (42.5 per 1,000 girls aged 10-19) places it in the bottom half of Tennessee counties for this indicator.
- ◇ More than 27,000 women (9.3%) in Davidson county have no health insurance coverage and 13.6% of Davidson County women earn incomes below poverty level.
- ◇ Though 10.0% of all families in Davidson County live below poverty level, 27.3% of families with a female householder and no husband present are in poverty.
- ◇ Of the over 50,000 privately-owned firms in Davidson County, only 25.2% are owned by women, and female-owned businesses account for just 3.3% of the total sales and receipts of private firms in the county.

# The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

## DAVIDSON

		Davidson County	Rank of David- son County	Highest Ranking County
<b>Earnings</b>	Median Annual Earnings for FT Females	\$27,770	2	Williamson: \$32,243
	Wage Gap	82.1%	1	Davidson: 82.1%

<b>Employment</b>	Female Labor Force Partici- pation Rate	49.8%	3	Rutherford: 50.9%
	Female Unemployment Rate	5.1%	28	Pickett: 1.5%
	Percent of Employed Fe- males in Management, Prof., and Related Occupations	29.7%	21	Anderson: 44.6%
	Women Owned Business % of Total	25.2%	28	Moore: 63.3%

<b>Education</b>	% of Females with 4 Year Degree or Better	23.6%	4	Williamson: 39.5%
	% of Females with High School Diploma (or equiva- lency)	81.1%	6	Williamson: 90.6%
	Female Dropout Rate	14.7%	89	Clay/Pickett: 0.0%

<b>Lifestyles</b>	% of Women with any kind of Health Insurance Cover- age	90.7%	61	Williamson: 100%
	% of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	13.6%	21	Williamson: 5.4%
	% of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	12.8%	81	Williamson: 2.5%
	Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	42.5	82	Williamson: 1.2%

# ABOUT THE COUNCIL AND THIS REPORT

Davidson County

*The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties* report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percentage of women in managerial occupations.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of households headed by a single female, single female headed households living in poverty, percentage of women with health insurance, the high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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Visit the Tennessee Economic Council on Women at [www.tennesseewomen.org](http://www.tennesseewomen.org)

SOURCES	
Earnings and Employment	
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Earnings)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Employed Females in Management, Professional, and Related Occupations	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Economic Autonomy	
Women-owned Business, Percent of total	Economic Census, 1997
Percent of Females w/4yr Degree or Better	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Females with a High School Diploma (or equivalency)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Dropout Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Women with Any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002
Percent of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002
Voter Demographics and Elected County Officials	National Association of Counties